Application No.: 09/982,836 - 2 - Docket No.: 8733.036.21

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1-27. (Cancelled)
- 28. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
 - a first substrate;
 - a first alignment layer on the first substrate;
 - a second substrate;
 - a second alignment layer on the second substrate;
- a liquid crystal layer between the first substrate and the second substrate, wherein an alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal layer adjacent to the first substrate is not parallel to being anti-parallel with an alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal layer adjacent to the second substrate;

a gate line on the first substrate; and

data and common electrodes on the first substrate, the data electrode being connected to a data line and the common electrode being connected to a common line, and a distance between the electrodes being less than a thickness of the liquid crystal layer.

- 29. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device of claim 28, wherein an alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal layer adjacent to the first substrate is parallel to the gate line.
- 30. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device of claim 28, wherein an alignment direction of liquid crystal molecules of the liquid crystal layer adjacent to the first substrate is perpendicular to the gate line.

31-37. (Cancelled)

Application No.: 09/982,836 - 3 - Docket No.: 8733.036.21

38. (Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising:

- a first substrate having a first alignment layer;
- a second substrate having a second alignment layer;

a liquid crystal layer having a plurality of liquid crystal molecules between the first and [[the]] second <u>substrates</u>;

a gate line on the first substrate; and

data and common electrodes on the first substrate, the data electrode being connected to a data line and the common electrode being connected to a common line, with the distance between the electrodes being less than a thickness of the liquid crystal layer, creating a parallel electric field between the data and common electrodes with a first strength adjacent to the first substrate and a second strength adjacent to the second substrate, the first strength being higher than the second strength, wherein the liquid crystal molecules adjacent to the first substrate are affected by the maximum parallel electric field strength, and rotate to align with the parallel electric field.

39. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device of claim 38, wherein the first strength is a maximum strength.

40. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device of claim 38, wherein the second strength is a minimum strength.

41. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device of claim 38, wherein the first strength is a maximum strength and the second strength is a minimum strength.

42. (Cancelled)